

# Religious Freedom Exists "Within Framework"

SALZBURG, Austria (BP) — Southern Baptist missionaries living here are doing a quiet and effective work in the Communist-controlled countries of Eastern Europe.

Their work includes theological education, lay leadership training, preaching, teaching, radio broadcasts, aid for church buildings, relief work, and help with importing Bibles.

John David Hopper, Southern Baptist missionary and fraternal representative to the Baptists of Eastern Europe, said the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board policy is to

work directly with the Baptist Union leadership, which usually is in cooperation with the Baptist World Alliance. It was the Alliance which invited Southern Baptists to cooperate in a ministry in Eastern Europe in 1920. Southern Baptist missionaries were stationed in Hungary, Romania, and Yugoslavia for a number of years before World War II.

As fraternal representative, Hopper provides a communication link between Southern Baptists and Baptists living in the Eastern European countries.

## Romans 13 offers tough choice.

"Our traditional contribution has been in the areas of pastoral and lay theological education, assistance in church buildings, and in Christian radio broadcasting," Hopper said.

Currently, Southern Baptists provide aid directly for theological education in Yugoslavia, Hungary and Poland. Hopper lectured regularly at the Baptist Seminary in Yugoslavia from 1972-1976 and another Southern Baptist couple continues to lecture there. Hopper recognizes that religious

freedom "as Americans know it" does not exist in Eastern Europe.

"Some zealous Christians who have been imprisoned for their evangelistic activity and later immigrated to the West maintain that the church is heavily persecuted today," Hopper said.

"On the other hand, many Baptist leaders in Eastern Europe consider that the church enjoys freedom within the bounds of a legal framework. Americans would call religious tolerance. They maintain that as long as the

church members live within the framework of their national law the church is not persecuted."

The framework includes worship at a registered church and low-key evangelism. But for some Christians, deciding to live within that framework is hard.

"In my travels I have noticed that pastors and laymen in some countries of Eastern Europe who are very active in personal evangelistic outreach sometimes suffer for their convictions," Hopper said. "Pastors have been removed from their churches and

laymen have been disadvantaged at their place of employment."

"Christians find themselves having to choose between submission to government authority as mentioned in Romans 13; and the answer given by Peter and the apostles when confronted by legal authorities who wanted to stop their witness — 'We must obey God rather than man,'" Hopper said.

Southern Baptist missionaries do not break local and state laws. Baptists in Eastern Europe work accord-

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## Public Educator Speaks

Charles Holladay, Mississippi superintendent of education, delivered an address to participants at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association which met in Biloxi last week. In addition to addresses by Robert Fulbright of the Sunday School Board, the meeting was augmented with separate sessions for secretaries with talks by Doris McWilliams. She is pastor's secretary and office manager of First Baptist Church in Tampa, Fla. (See story inside, Page 2.)

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## Wester Heads Committee To Replace Porter Routh

By Don McGregor

Brooks Wester, pastor of First Baptist Church of Hattiesburg, has been

named chairman of a six-person committee appointed to nominate a successor for Porter Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern

Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

The Search Committee was named by Executive Committee Chairman W. Ches Smith of Georgia last week during the February meeting of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee also endorsed a \$75 million Cooperative Program budget for 1978-79 to be presented to the 1978 Convention; projected New Orleans as the site of the 1982 Convention; okayed a \$16.7 million dollar capital needs program for the six seminaries, the Radio and Television Commission, and the Brotherhood Commission; and accepted a statement on world hunger.

Additionally the committee took actions relating to the Home Mission Board's purpose, the American Baptist Seminary, aid for churches in bond programs, the loan operations of the Home Mission Board, and the internal control procedures of SBC agencies.

**Symbol Endorsed**  
The committee endorsed a symbol for the Southern Baptist Convention and proposed a \$1 million operating budget for the convention.

A message by SBC President Jimmy

Allen of San Antonio closed the meeting.

The committee to search for a nominee to bring back to the Executive Committee for the position of executive secretary-treasurer is made up of two people from each of the three subcommittees. From the Business and Finance Subcommittee are Mrs. Anita Bass of Texas and Paul Craven of South Carolina. Rodney Landes of Arkansas and James Jones of Michigan are the members from the Program and Budget Subcommittee. In addition to Wester from the Administrative and Convention Arrangements Subcommittee is Franklin Paschall of Tennessee.

The Search Committee has been asked to have its guidelines formulated by the September meeting of the Executive Committee and to have the nominee ready to present by the February meeting in 1979.

Routh will retire in August of 1979. The \$75 million Cooperative Program budget will go before the Southern Baptist Convention in June in Atlanta for final approval. It includes a basic operating budget of \$62 million, an \$8

(Continued on page 2)



## State Celebrates 100 Years Of Woman's Missionary Union

The Centennial Annual Meeting of Woman's Missionary Union will be held March 27-29 at First Baptist Church in Jackson.

Presiding over the two-day meeting will be Mrs. Robert (Frances) Smira, 18th president of Mississippi WMU.

"Our Best For God" is the theme of the convention, which begins at 7 p.m. on Monday night and concludes at noon on Wednesday.

Highlighting the Monday evening session will be addresses by Joe McKeever, pastor of FBC, Columbus, Eugene Grubbs of the Foreign Mission Board, and Mrs. Huron (Edie) Polnac, home missionary from Boise, Idaho.

Tuesday will be a day of honoring the past and looking toward the future.



Smira



Weatherford

Former state officers of Mississippi WMU will be honored, as will parents of Mississippi missionaries. Carolyn Weatherford, executive director of WMU for the Southern Baptist Convention, will speak Tuesday morning, Wednesday morning, and at the BYW

Banquet on Tuesday evening at 5:30 p.m.

Highlighting Tuesday's activities will be the presentation of a historical pageant, depicting scenes from the life and development of WMU in Mississippi. This pageant, directed by Gene Brack of William Carey College, will be held at 7 p.m. at the Jackson City Auditorium.

Furloughing foreign missionaries will speak during Tuesday and Wednesday sessions. Music will be directed by Larry Black, minister of music, FBC, Jackson, while the Mississippi Baptist Singing Churchmen and the Carey College Choral will be among featured musical groups.

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## State Finals In Basketball Is RA Feature

The finals of the State Royal Ambassador Basketball Tournament will be held in conjunction with the State Royal Ambassador Congress, March 24-25.

The single elimination tournament will feature six teams from these churches in Mississippi: Barton Church, Lucedale — Douglas Hatcher, coach; Alta Woods Church, Jackson — Don Smith, coach; Crestwood Church, Booneville — Ronnie Wheeler, coach; First Church, Vicksburg — Tom Hill, coach; Calvary Church, Booneville — Butch Caldwell, coach; and Sherman Church, Sherman — Rick Spencer, coach.

Tournament will be played in the A. E. Wood Coliseum on the campus of Mississippi College. Congress sessions will also be in the coliseum at MC.

Trophies will be awarded to winner, second runner up, and Most Valuable Player.

For more information on the RA Congress, contact the Mississippi Baptist Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. Registration is due by March 17.

## FMB Revamps Medical Missions In Mid-East

RICHMOND (BP) — Major changes in medical missions ministries in the Middle East and India were approved by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, along with evangelism plans and funds during its Feb. 14 meeting here.

The recommendations included a shift of emphasis in two ministries, the closing of a school of nursing, and changes in administration and financing. The actions came as a result of the work of an evaluation team that toured the area in October 1977. The team has been asked to continue to function through 1979 when members will tour the same hospitals again.

Recommendations dealt with specific problems and concerns found by the team and with medical ministries in the area. The first non-missionary team to evaluate medical missions institutions included a hospital administrator, a medical school professor, a nursing school curriculum coordinator, plus two members of the board staff.

"These changes are effective only in the area of the Middle East and India, growing out of a specialized study recommended by the area secretary," said Baker J. Cauthen, the board's executive director. "They are designed to strengthen medical work in light of circumstances prevailing in that area."

Closing the professional nursing school in Jordan is a result of the lack of qualified nursing students, the team said. A program for training nurses' aides will be continued. The Baptist Hospital, Ajloun, Jordan, has also been asked to reduce the number of beds and increase outpatient care in clinics.

The changes in the ministry of Jordan hospital are necessary in part be-

cause of two new, ultra-modern government hospitals a short distance away. The Jordan hospital was asked to study the possibility of referring patients to these hospitals.

The Gaza Baptist Hospital was asked to shift from a surgical unit to a general medical care unit as soon as staff arrangements can be made.

J. Cecil Hamiter, president and director of the Baptist Memorial Hospital, Gadsden, Ala., evaluated hospital administration and financing, and Timothy Pennell, professor of surgery at Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Wake Forest (N.C.) University, served on the team to evaluate professional standards.

Many recommendations applied to all four hospitals visited by the team — Jordan hospital, Gaza hospital, Jibla (Yemen) Baptist Hospital and Bangalore (India) Baptist Hospital.

At the top of the list of the 15 recommendations brought by the team was a reminder of the evangelistic task of the hospitals and a request that each hospital which does not have a full-time, qualified chaplain on the staff now seek one.

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## Delta State To Break Ground For Baptist Student Center

Ground breaking ceremonies for the new Baptist Student Center to serve the students of Delta State University, Cleveland, will be at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, March 5. The lot is located on the corner of Fourth Avenue and South Court Street.

Architect for the new building is James Warren McCleskey, Hattiesburg, and the general contractor is Roy Collins Construction Company, Cleveland. James A. Breland is BSU Director. The public is invited.



1978 Mississippi Baptist Bible Conference to be held March 20-21 at First Baptist Church in Jackson.

Participants may choose from the following Books for the 5 hours and 40 minutes of study: I Peter, Matthew, Ephesians, Romans, Nehemiah, Acts, Hebrews, and Galatians. Participants may choose only one Book for study because of the continuing nature of the two day program.

Interspersed with the Book studies will be Bible messages by Ken Chafin and Wayne Dehoney. Chafin is pastor of South Main Baptist Church in Houston, Tex. Dehoney is pastor of Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky. He replaces Charles Trentham, pastor of FBC, Washington, D. C., on the program.

Chafin and Dehoney will deliver one message each from the Old and New Testaments. Larry Black, music minister of FBC, Jackson, will lead the music.

The special Bible Book studies will be taught by a number of authorities on the Bible. Ray Frank Robbins, professor of New Testament and Greek for New Orleans Seminary will teach I Peter.

Scott L. Tatum, professor of preaching at Southwestern Seminary will teach Acts. Curtis Vaughn, professor of New Testament at Southwestern Seminary will teach Ephesians. Ralph L. Murray, consultant in the Growth

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# Wester Heads Committee To Replace Porter Routh

(Continued from page 1)

million increase over the present budget of \$54 million; and a \$2 million capital needs budget that compares with the present \$1.08 million. A Bold Mission Thrust Challenge budget of \$11 million for next year is to be compared with an \$8.32 million figure in that category for this year. The total budget for this year is \$63.4 million.

The two mission boards were allocated \$42,260,000 of the total with the Foreign Mission Board getting \$29,760,000 and the Home Mission Board getting \$12,500,000. The six seminaries were allocated \$13,409,000 with each receiving an amount according to a pre-determined formula.

The Radio and Television allocation is \$3 million. The remainder goes to the other agencies and commissions.

## New Orleans Convention

The 1982 site for the convention is the Superdome in New Orleans. The date was established as June 15-17.

The 1978-84 capital needs proposal will go to the Convention for final approval. The proposal calls for a \$2 million distribution in 1978-79, for \$2.5 million in 1979-80 and \$600 more in 1980-81, for \$3 million in 1981-82, for \$3,365,000 in 1982-83, and for \$3,340,385 in 1983-84.

Golden Gate Seminary would get the largest share, \$4,297,046, with almost all of it coming in the first 3 years. Midwestern, Southern, and Southwestern seminaries would each get \$2 million. New Orleans would get

## FMB Revamps

## Med. Missions

(Continued from page 1)

J. D. Hughey, the board's secretary for Europe, the Middle East and South Asia, and Franklin T. Fowler, the board's medical consultant and former medical missionary, accepted the responsibility for evaluating the spiritual witness effectiveness, both nationwide and local, of the hospitals.

Each hospital is asked to employ a cost accounting system and develop a method to charge patients capable of paying for their medical care. The team and board emphasized that this recommendation is not meant to stop charity care and that no patient should

because of inability to pay. In other actions, the board approved an additional \$40,730 in coverage for a deficit in the Baptist Theological Seminary, Ruschlikon, Zurich, Switzerland.

Action was taken to inform European Baptists of the deficit and to see if greater European participation could be encouraged.

Evangelism funding and special emphases were among the other business of the board. Funding of \$55,000 was approved for major city evangelization efforts in Korea.

# Eight Books Of Bible Receive Close Attention

(Continued from page 1)

Section of the Sunday School Board will teach Hebrews.

Boyd Hunt, professor of theology at Southwestern, will teach Galatians. Harold S. Senger, professor of New Testament interpretation, at Southern Seminary, will teach Matthew. Dale Moody, Joseph Emerson Brown professor of Christian theology at South-

\$2,701,295, and Southeastern would get \$2,547,444.

The Radio and Television Commission would get \$1 million, and the Brotherhood Commission would get \$160,000.

The allocations were based on findings of a work group of the Program and Budget Subcommittee of the Executive Committee.

The 1977 Convention in Kansas City adopted a resolution on world hunger and referred it to the Executive Committee. The Program and Budget Subcommittee wrestled with implementation possibilities for a couple of hours before finally agreeing to recommend a simplified statement back to the full committee. The statement was adopted. It calls attention to the fact that SBC agencies are already at work in a cooperative effort under the leadership of the Christian Life Commission in a response to world hunger, and it expresses appreciation for those efforts. It expresses support and encouragement to those engaged in the work and urges Southern Baptists to respond vigorously and effectively.

## Statement of Purpose

The new statement of purpose for the Home Mission Board will be distributed for reaction and comment. It will be resubmitted to the Executive Committee in June for final action. Though the wording is different, briefly it would change the concept from "crossing barriers to make disciples for Christ" to moving "into new frontiers in sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ to make disciples, and in establishing congregations for witnessing and ministering."

The committee adopted a statement that would establish a new objective of the Southern Baptist Convention Commission on the American Baptist Theological Seminary in that it is to act as a liaison between the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., and the SBC in matters relating to the seminary. It is to transmit and account for all funds from the SBC to the semi-

nary; work to promote the interests of the seminary; provide, as needed, consultative services to the administration and trustees regarding accreditation, management, faculty development, student recruitment, long range planning, and fund raising; and review plans regarding maintenance, insurance, sale and/or use of properties and/or the investment or distribution of funds derived from the use or sale of properties.

Relative to church bond programs, the committee declared that a monitoring and counseling role by the Home Mission Board Church Loan Division for the churches requesting it would be a consistent with the program statement of the Home Board. The board will not engage in bond sale programs.

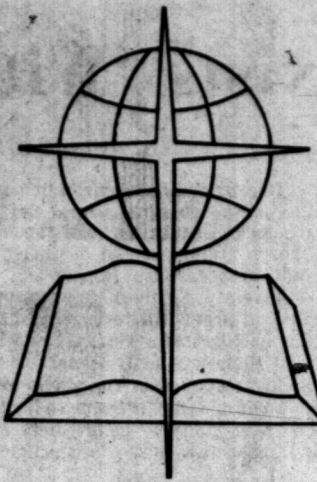
## Loan Study

The committee called for a study of the program of church loans and assistance in an effort to further the objectives of Bold Mission Thrust. It also authorized a study of the internal control procedures of each of the SBC agencies in cooperation with the agencies by the firm of Peat, Marwick, and Mitchell & Co.

The \$1,062,000 convention operating budget allocates \$586,350 for the Executive Committee. Convention expense will get \$205,000 and the Baptist World Alliance \$212,000. Lesser amounts will go to special committees, building operations, legal and auditing, and Religion in American Life. Only \$502,000 of this comes from the Cooperative Program. The Sunday School Board contributes \$420,000, and \$40,000 comes from dividends and interest.

Before it adjourned the Executive Committee voted to encourage churches to send more laymen to the Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta for a special laymen's meeting and emphasis.

The symbol endorsed by the Executive Committee is shown on this page.



# Penn.-Jersey Names Bush As Executive

HARRISBURG, Pa. (BP) — Ellis M. Bush has been elected executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey and editor of the convention publication, "Penn.-Jersey Baptist."



Bush

Bush, 49, executive minister of First Baptist Church, Shreveport, La., will join the convention staff April 1, and assume full responsibility as the chief administrative officer on May 31, when G. W. Bullard retires.

In other action, the convention's executive board also elected A. Wilson Parker, director of missions for the Southern Tier Baptist Association, Vestal, N. Y., as the convention's first fulltime missions division director.

Bush, a native of Hartford, Ala., has served on the staff of the Shreveport church since 1975. Previously he spent 10 years with the Alabama Baptist State Convention, directing the Sunday School department for four years and the church development division for six years.

# Public Educator Speaks To Religious Educators

Charles Holladay, superintendent of Education for the State of Mississippi, and a Baptist layman, told Baptist educators gathered in Biloxi for their annual convention that actual learning in Sunday School often does not exist. "Sunday after Sunday we teach—they never change, never read the lesson, there's no different expression on their faces," said Holladay. "The truth of the matter is there hasn't been much learning going on," he added.

Holladay told state Baptist educators some of his aspirations for adequate Bible teaching. Included on the list is that "a way be found to provide every church member with an effective church training program; that every student have as a part of his or her church training teachers who are beautiful and creative." Holladay explained that he did not mean beautiful in looks. In addition, Holladay said he hoped teachers would live out the things they teach — "that we are what we say we are."

Another suggestion for improving the quality of teaching includes teaching more. "Teachers who teach the most time have students who achieve the most," said Holladay. "If we're going to teach the Bible, then that's what we ought to do, not talk about the football or what happened Saturday night."

Robert Fulbright, director of the Bible Teaching Division of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, was another featured speaker on the program of the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association.

He said that "an aggressive outreach and quality Bible teaching have to be balanced." This is in light of the objective of Sunday School which he defined as "reaching lost people for Jesus Christ and for meaningful church membership."

He said that the best evangelistic growth indicator is the Sunday School enrollment. "Frankly, I'm not sure we really have a dynamic growth consciousness," added Fulbright.

Fulbright named a dozen methods of increasing enrollment of Sunday School and challenged educators to look creatively at the challenges of Sunday School growth.

Officers of the statewide association of Baptist educators were elected for 1978-79. They include Phil McCarty of Mississippi College, president; A. V. Windham of Temple Church in Hattiesburg, president-elect; Bill Davis of FBC Greenville, vice-president; and Vivian Reeves of Broadmoor Church in Jackson, secretary-treasurer.

A number of exhibitors of religious education aids brought samples of their wares to the convention.



Robert Fulbright of the Sunday School Board, introduced the Bible Book Series, which will be added to Sunday School curriculum.

## Baptist Joint Committee Opposes Credits

# House Unit Joins Battle Over Tuition Tax Credits

By Carol Franklin

WASHINGTON (BP) — The scene of the battle over tax credits for tuition has shifted from the U. S. Senate to the U. S. House of Representatives. In five days of hearings the House Ways and Means Committee heard over 90 witnesses.

Educators, parents, students, religious groups, members of Congress and administration figures all had

their say on the controversial matter of how to meet the increasing costs of education.

The committee, chaired by Rep. Al Ullman, D-Ore., has several bills under consideration which would grant a tax credit for educational expenses. The major proposal in the House, the Burke-Frenzel Bill (H. R. 9332), is identical to the Packwood-Moynihan Bill (S. 2142) in the Senate. That measure would provide a tax credit of one-half of the tuition paid to parochial and other private schools up to a maximum of \$500 per student. It includes elementary, secondary and higher education.

The majority of the witnesses at the hearings favored tax credits as a simple means of relieving the pressure on middle class parents who choose to send their children to private schools. Eleven Catholic groups, including parents as well as teachers, testified in favor of such relief. Eleven other private school groups also testified in favor of tax credits.

The Carter administration opposes tax credits for tuition. Joseph A. Califano, secretary of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, in an effort to head off the Moynihan-Packwood Plan again explained the administration proposal to expand existing grant and loan programs to include more families in the middle-

income range. This plan was unveiled at a White House press conference following hearings in the Senate on the tuition tax credit plan.

Student groups, universities and educational organizations split on the matter. Representatives of students on some campus strongly urged passage of a tax credit measure while the National Student Lobby and National Student Association opposed such action.

The National Education Association, which did not testify in the Senate hearings, scored the proposals as "unsound administratively, unsound fiscally, unsound as a matter of public policy, and unsound constitutionally."

Three senators and 14 representatives testified on tax credits with only one, Rep. Charles W. Whalen Jr., Ohio, opposing the concept. The Burke-Frenzel Bill has 66 co-sponsors in the House.

Religious liberty groups, such as the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, Americans United for Separation of Church and State and the National Coalition for Public Education and Religious Liberty again opposed tax credits. They were joined in their opposition by citizens groups, such as Save Our Public Schools, which see tax credits as a threat to the survival of the public education system of the nation.

# Editors, Secretaries Elect Officers

PHOENIX, Ariz. (BP) — Harold C. Bennett of Jacksonville, Fla., and John E. Roberts of Greenville, S. C., were elected presidents respectively of the Association of State Baptist Executive Secretaries and the National Baptist Press Association during annual meetings of the organizations.

Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer of the Florida Baptist Convention, succeeds James Landes, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas; Roberts, editor of South Carolina's "Baptist Courier," succeeds Jack Harwell, editor of Georgia's "Christian Index."

Other officers of the executive secretaries group are Glen E. Braswell, executive director-treasurer Colorado Baptist Convention, vice president and president-elect; and Joe L. Ingram, executive director-treasurer, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, secretary.

Other press association officers are Alvin C. Shackelford, editor of Tennessee's "Baptist and Reflector," president-elect, and Bob Terry, editor of Missouri's "Word and Way," secretary-treasurer.



Murray

Moody

Vaughn

Tatum



Senger

Arnold

Robbins

Hunt

## "Pendulum" To Get Update

"Pendulum," a 15-minute radio show that urges listeners to "explore life to the outer limits" is being updated for the first time in seven years.

The show is produced by the Radio and Television Commission, SBC, for the ABC Radio network. The show airs on 140 stations.

The present format covers a wide sweep of musical culture and includes scriptural passages and inspirational messages. It opens with a clock tick-

ing, symbolizing the pendulum sound, and the phrase, "The pendulum reminds us to explore life to its outer limits."

New music for the show will range from ethnic to folk to classical with the first of the new shows to feature a strong element of spiritual music.

Virginia (Mrs. Buryl) Red, chairman of the Music Department of the City College of New York, will be hostess for the new series.

# Southern Baptist Energy Awareness Increasing

By Jim Lowry

NASHVILLE (BP) — Nationwide energy problems have prompted Southern Baptists to devise energy conservation methods local churches may adopt to combat rising costs and curtail waste.

Church building conferences, held annually in state Baptist conventions, will feature discussions of the energy situation this year to help make churches aware of possible conservation actions, according to Lee Anderson, supervisor of the field services and promotion section in the church architecture department at the denomination's Sunday School Board.

New sources and types of energy are not expected soon enough to allow the nation to continue on its present course of energy consumption, making conservation a necessity, Anderson said.

Sources of energy currently under study for development include atomic, solar and ocean energy, wind, steam power from the earth, hydrogen from water and synthetic fuels.

Numerous suggestions have been offered for consideration by churches, including multiple worship services and Sunday Schools to reduce the amount of space to be heated or cooled, and designs for facilities allowing multiple uses to reduce the amount of required space.

Anderson cited many ways to reduce energy use in existing buildings, including additional insulation, storm windows, double entrance doors, shade trees for summer sun protection and operable shutters on southern exposure.

He also suggested that churches check mechanical systems and make necessary alterations to maintain heating and cooling only in areas in use, and stop heating or cooling in halls, storage areas and mechanical rooms.

Other energy saving steps include lower ceilings, newer and more efficient heating and cooling systems, better scheduling to avoid heating or cooling an unoccupied building or area,

lower light levels, and lighter colors on walls and ceilings to reduce the amount of necessary light.

Also, weather stripping and caulking around doors, windows, vents and other possible air leakage areas and use of thermopane storm windows will conserve energy through minimum heat loss or gain.

Churches with building plans should add insulation in ceilings, floors and walls for minimum heat loss, consider placement of new buildings on the property to take advantage of solar heating through windows, design overhang or other building features to shade windows in summer and expose them in winter, and use minimum glass on northern exposure.

Church architecture department personnel, who consult regularly with churches and state conventions on these and other energy saving methods, hope to reach the maximum number of churches so Southern Baptists can play a role in dealing with a national crisis.

# Baptist Board Employs Terrell

NASHVILLE — Jerry D. Terrell, a native of McComb, has been named supervisor of the preschool program section for the Sunday School Board's Sunday School department.

Terrell, son of Mr. and Mrs. William N. Terrell, Sr., of McComb, is a 1959 graduate of Gibson High School.

He was graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi and from Southwestern Seminary.

He was ordained in 1964 by the Main Street Church, Hattiesburg. Prior to assuming his new position, he was minister of childhood education at Plymouth Park Church, Irving, Texas, for five years. Earlier, he had been minister of education for Van Winkle Church, Jackson; minister of education and youth for South Hills Church, Fort Worth; and associate pastor of Valley Church, Longview, Wash.

Terrell is married to the former Mary Dykes of Meadville, Miss. They have three children.



## Young Musicians' Festival Is At MC

The Young Musicians' Festival will be at the new Mississippi College Coliseum in Clinton, on April 1 with registration beginning at 9:15. This is an annual event involving approximately 2,000 fourth, fifth, and sixth grade choir members, and is sponsored by the Church Music Department.

Linda Boyd, music associate from the Missouri Baptist Convention, will be the guest conductor. She will be leading the mass choir in six numbers.

A concert of these selections will be presented at 1:45 in the Coliseum and the public is invited.

The registration deadline is set for March 17 and must be accompanied by \$2.00 fee per child and adult attending. This fee includes lunch which is served at the coliseum.

For further information contact: Church Music Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.



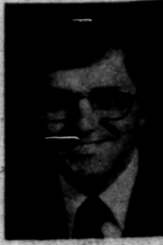
Fling



Polnac



Grubbs



McNeever

## State WMU Celebrates 100 Years

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Mrs. Robert (Helen) Fling, past president of WMU, SBC, will be the meditation speaker for all four of the sessions held at First Baptist Church.

All women who have made hand work during the year in commemoration of the Centennial, are invited to bring these pieces for display. A special exhibit room will be provided at First Baptist Church to house these art works during the Convention.

Officers of Mississippi WMU are Mrs. Smira; Mrs. E. M. (Carolyn) Kee, Jr., Woodville, vice-president; Mrs. Bill (Marion) Duncan, Long Beach, recording secretary; and Mrs. G. W. (Lottie) Smith, Louisville, associate recording secretary.

### WMU

## New Book To Be Presented At Queens' Court

Covered Foundations, a new history of Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union, will be presented during Queen's Court at the Saturday morning session, March 11. The book is by Marjean Patterson, state WMU director. The presentation is designed as a salute to Mississippi WMU in its Centennial year.

Queen's Court, for Acteens, will be March 10-12 at Camp Garaywa. The weekend gathering is under the sponsorship of the WMU Department and has been planned by Marilyn Hopkins, state Acteens director. The theme is "To Win Our Land For Christ."

Missionary speakers will include Jerry and Carol Simon, Taiwan; Paul and Fran Vandercook, Mississippi; and Flora Holifield, Italy.

Donn Poole, Broadmoor Church, Jackson, will be in charge of the music. Janie Boykin of Pascagoula will be the pianist.

Among others on program will be Talitha Edwards, Grenada Acteen who was one of six named to a national Acteen panel last year, and Mrs. Frances Smira, state WMU president.

"Because of the remodeling that is going on at Garaywa, there will be some inconvenience with bathroom facilities," Miss Hopkins said. "But we will have a good time anyway!" She expects from 220 to 250 girls.

## Doctor Of Ministry Wins Accreditation

The Doctor of Ministry program at New Orleans Seminary has been awarded full accreditation. This action was taken by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, meeting in Vidalia, Ohio.

With the notice of full accreditation status, all programs at the New Orleans seminary are fully accredited.

## The Missions Task Sudden Riches . . .

By John Alexander, Director, Stewardship Department

In Genesis 41 we have the remarkable story of Joseph's rise to prominence and power in Egypt. Almost overnight he was moved from a dungeon to the king's presence where, following his interpretation of a dream, "... Pharaoh took off his signet ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck; and he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, Bow the knee: and he set him over all the land of Egypt. And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, I am Pharaoh, and without thee shall no man lift up his hand or his foot in all the land of Egypt" (Gen. 41:42-44).

This for Joseph is a real story of "from rags to riches." What Joseph did with this sudden power and riches is also a remarkable story. Back of this remarkable man was the wisdom God gives liberally to all those who ask Him. Joseph moved out over the rural areas of Egypt and during seven years of plenty he stored up in the cities food from the bounty of the land until the enormous storage was beyond counting.

But the seven years of plenty in Egypt came to an end. The famine was across the face of the earth and the people cried to Pharaoh for bread. Joseph opened the storehouses and sold grain to the Egyptians and all countries came into Egypt to Joseph to buy grain.

The bounty that exists in America today cannot continue forever. No nation in history has lived in perpetual prosperity. There is not enough fuel and water to supply the rampage America is now on. The average American family is spending 110 percent of its income weekly. The average family spends every dime of its income within 40 hours after receiving it. Americans are living as though there were no tomorrow.

I see people who have had it hard most of their lives come into relative riches in just a year or so. What do they do with this "abundant harvest"? They buy bigger houses, bigger cars that guzzle the gas, bigger boats, etc. Precious few of them recognize that these years of plenty will come to an end and they would be well advised to prepare for it.

America is in for a day of reckoning and it may not be too far in the future! Surely the wisdom of God would impress any thoughtful Christian with the necessity for doing what Joseph in Egypt did in the years of plenty: prepare now for the famine years. "Famines" in modern times come from a variety of sources: loss of jobs, loss of health, business reverses, accidents, etc.

Not only should Christians be faithful in the support of the Lord's work through their churches, they should be thrifty with the remaining part of their income.

Since the policy of the government in modern America promotes spending, it is up to individuals and Christian families to recognize the signs of the times and prepare for what is ahead. Every family needs a recognizable, workable, equitable program of savings that it follows religiously. Many of the people who are recklessly spending what they are now receiving could be standing in a bread line later. Think about it!

## Action

Two years ago First Church, Tutwiler participated in the ACTION Enrollment Plan. Jimmy Martin, pastor, states, "It proved to be an exciting and profitable experience for our church. Our people got involved in house to house visitation. We took the church to the people. The spirit of our church reached an emotional high during this time. People who were unaccustomed to sharing testimonies freely testified to the power of God working among the people."

Because of some unusual experiences people in the community unrelated to the church came to see for themselves what was taking place. Some of the unusual experiences were, a grandfather, father and son were baptized. A father, mother and son were baptized together. A husband and wife were baptized together. Most of those baptized were adults and the church led the Tallahatchie Association in total additions that year.

The peak and climax of ACTION occurred unexpectedly and spontaneously during a Sunday morning worship service. The invitation lasted for 20 minutes as people, especially Christians continually came forward to pray and express genuine love for Christ as Lord.

Martin concludes, "We highly recommend the ACTION Enrollment Plan as a means for church growth and personal stimulation for church members and Christians."

New York (RNS) — The 1978 edition of the American Jewish Year Book estimates the world Jewish population at 14,259,525, an increase of 115,000 over last year.

## Reservations Needed For Young Marrieds

Reservations for the banquet which precedes the Clinic for Young Married Adult Leaders in Sunday School March 10 at First Church McComb need to be in the office of the Sunday School Department by March 8. The banquet will begin at 6 p.m. and the tickets will be \$4 each. Those with reservations will pay at the door.

The Clinic is being sponsored by the state Sunday School Department and Pike County Baptist Association. It will be led by John Sizemore, director of the Bible Teaching Division of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and Mrs. Sizemore, an adult specialist.

The session will begin with the banquet and conclude at 10 p.m., Dangerfield said.

St. Paul, Minn. (RNS) — An antique cross made of brass apparently was stolen from House of Hope Presbyterian Church here after the funeral Jan. 16 of Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey. Church employees reported that the cross, which is about 150 years old and valued at \$500, had not been seen since the funeral. They believed it was taken between Jan. 16 and Jan. 22. The cross, about two feet tall and a foot wide with a four foot wooden base, was made in Germany.

## Seminar Looks At Ministry To Aging



Gordon Shamburger, director of pastoral care at the Baptist medical center, gave an overview of the program topic, "The Ministry to the Aging Patient."



J. Clark Hensley, executive director, Christian Action Commission, said, "I don't think God called pastors to just part of the flock. He called pastors to be shepherds to all the flock, and that includes the aging."

The 18th annual seminar of pastoral care of the ill was held Feb. 21 in the amphitheater of Gilroy Unit at the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center. The seminar was jointly sponsored by the medical center and the Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention.



Carroll Freeman, associate professor of psychology and counseling at New Orleans Seminary, was one of the featured speakers. T. G. Ross, staff physician at Baptist Medical Center, was another. Freeman said, "One of the best therapies I know for the aging is that they find a meaning, a purpose for existence, the answer to 'Why are we here?'" Freeman is also C.P.E. supervisor at Southeast Louisiana Hospital, Mandeville, La., and area coordinator, Mississippi Council on Aging.



Elmer Dutchback (not pictured), associate professor of pastoral care and counseling at Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson, led the closing prayer. Other program personalities included S. L. Bowman, pastor of Greater Clark Street Baptist Church, Jackson; David McIntosh, pastor of Christ United Methodist Church; and Paul Pryor, executive director, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center. Ministers of all faiths were invited.

## Religious Freedom Exists . . .

(Continued from page 1)

ing to local regulations and have even been given permission to import a limited number of Bibles in some countries where they are scarce. He admits the need for Bibles outstrips the supply but added Bibles are available in Poland and Yugoslavia from local stores.

Southern Baptist missionaries travel and preach in many areas of the Communist controlled countries, including Russia. Where legally possible, they assist local Baptist Unions in developing their own Christian literature, which can be printed on a limited scale in most countries.

The Foreign Mission Board actively supports an evangelistic radio ministry to Eastern Europe. E. Wesley Miller, missionary in Switzerland and media consultant for Europe, has helped initiate several language

broadcasts. Southern Baptists share the cost of air time and provide technical assistance for programs beamed to Yugoslavia, Russia, Poland and Romania.

Southern Baptists have helped with church construction in Romania, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Poland and the German Democratic Republic (East Germany).

Funds were offered by the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board for rebuilding and other relief efforts in Romania after an earthquake did extensive damage in March 1977. Permission has not yet been received for construction of a seminary building that was badly damaged.

In addition, Eastern European Baptists have the opportunity to attend conferences on Christian education, church growth and Baptist distinctives, and sometimes also to send students to other countries for seminary

study. In some instances Southern Baptists help with financing these things.

More than 6,000 attended recent evangelistic meetings in Romania and in Russia several thousand more attended similar meetings. Hopper preached on both occasions and was received warmly.

"This past year I met with Baptist leaders in most of the socialist countries to discuss ways in which Southern Baptists can strengthen the bonds of Christian love and fellowship," Hopper said. "We sought ways of effectively cooperating in the cause of the gospel, making several contacts with government officials responsible for religious affairs in their respective countries."

"And," he pointed out, "Baptist church growth in Eastern Europe actually exceeds that of Western Europe."

## Blue Mountain To Host April Blue Grass Festival, Horse Show

Blue Mountain College will host a Blue Grass Festival April 14-15, which will feature some of the area's best blue grass musicians competing for cash prizes throughout the event.

Already slated to appear are such groups as The Wilson Brothers of Bruce, Leola Mills and the Keys of Blue Grass of Booneville, the Free State Blue Grass Boys of Haleyville, Alabama, the Blue Grass Ramblers of Mantachie and the Blue Grass Express of Florence, Alabama.

Two additional events will be held in conjunction with the festival on Saturday, April 15, an Open Western Horse Show will take place between 9-4 on the Blue Mountain campus with some 20 prize and trophy categories and an all

women's 3-mile run will be held over the BMC campus on Saturday morning.

BMC admissions director Cecil Byrd is coordinating the events for the festival and noted, "We have been pleased by the early response from area bands to participate in the blue grass portion of the festival and feel we will have a quality program for those attending."

"We are expecting entries in the horse show from Memphis, Germantown, Tupelo, New Albany, Ripley, Corinth, and Booneville and will have applications available in the next few days. Cissy Smyrl, BMC horseman-show instructor, is directing the horse show activity for the festival."

The all women's run is thought to be the first of its kind in Mississippi and is

expected to attract a large field of runners. Les Knight of the Blue Mountain faculty is handling production of the race which will cover a winding, level three-mile course around the college campus. There will be five age divisions with all participants receiving special T-shirts designed by the BMC art department.

A number of concessions will be available during the festival run with proceeds to be used to help finance the BMC singing group "The Singers" on their tour of Europe this summer.

Byrd added, "Additional information about tickets to the blue grass festival, entry fees for the horse show and run may be obtained by contacting the Office of Admissions at the college."

## The POPLAR SPRINGS DRIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

MERIDIAN, MISSISSIPPI

Cordially Invites

Former members, staff personnel, Friends, and especially Individuals who have entered definite Christian Service to the NINETY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY and WEEK OF REMEMBRANCE

MARCH 12-19, 1978

ENJOY WITH US

SUNDAY,	MARCH 12	10:45 A.M.	JAMES A. RUFFIN, Pastor 1972-ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION & RECEPTION
MONDAY,	MARCH 13	7:00 P.M.	W. B. ABEL, Pastor 1932-1949
TUESDAY,	MARCH 14	7:00 P.M.	DAVID Q. BYRD, Pastor 1949-1954
WEDNESDAY,	MARCH 15	7:00 P.M.	ROBERT WOODDY, Pastor 1954-1957
THURSDAY,	MARCH 16	7:00 P.M.	WILL BAKER, Pastor 1957-1972
FRIDAY,	MARCH 17	7:00 P.M.	HAROLD O'CHESTER, Pastor 1963-1969
SATURDAY,	MARCH 18	7:00 P.M.	BILL CAUSEY, Pastor 1957-1963
SUNDAY,	MARCH 19	VICTORY SUNDAY—FELLOWSHIP LUNCH 12:00	

DEDICATION OF W. B. ABEL CHRISTIAN ACTIVITIES BUILDING 1:30  
LEADING MUSIC FOR THE WEEK — RUSSELL BISHOP, Minister Of Music 1965-1971



# The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

## Editorials

### Bold Mission Thrust...

## Service Of Instrumentality

Bold Mission Thrust was the subject of a great deal of the discussion during the meeting last week of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

And well it might have been. It seems there still is some degree of misunderstanding concerning some of the facets of this projected intense effort, particularly relating to the Mission Service Corps.

Albert McClellan is the staff person for Bold Mission Thrust for the SBC Executive Committee. During the meeting of the Executive Committee he gave a Bold Mission Thrust report as only he can. He used hastily and crudely lettered signs held up by persons conscripted from the audience. It was highly effective.

He reported on the Bold Mission Thrust years of 1979 through 1982, which is the national part of the effort. He used Bold Growing, Bold Going, and Bold Giving as an outline for his approach.

Under Bold Growing he listed a 12 percent increase in Sunday School enrollment by 1982, a 10 percent gain in baptisms every year through 1982, and the establishment of churches and mission outposts.

For Bold Going there was the goal of 5,000 new career missionaries,

another 5,000 short-term missionaries, and equipping all who will participate for the task of witnessing in their own locales.

Under Bold Giving McClellan listed a 15 percent annual increase in giving and double Cooperative Program income by 1982.

Particularly McClellan pointed out what he termed to be a gap between the Southern Baptist Convention and the local church. He indicated that most state conventions have outlined Bold Mission Thrust procedures but missing from the chain are the agencies and the associations.

Presumably, the agencies referred to were those of the Southern Baptist Convention. He did not elaborate.

Concerning the associations, it must be reported that these organizations in Mississippi are getting geared up to participate in Bold Mission Thrust. They are becoming active in two phases of work directly related to the mission effort. They are scheduling lay witness training schools, and they are setting up ACTION programs in the churches in September.

The state convention, of course, is aiding in the coordination of the witness training schools and the ACTION programs and is pointing toward state-wide simultaneous revivals in

1979. We have been in an intense effort in cooperation with the associations for the establishment of new churches for the past three years.

Relative to the Mission Service Corps, which is a facet of Bold Mission Thrust, McClellan said the two mission boards are organized and are cooperating with the state conventions.

He pointed to three parts for Mission Service Corps. They are (1) identifying the places of need through the Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board — he said there are 1,000 places in the nation; (2) he declared the volunteers (5,000) are in sight; (3) he indicated that the process of enlisting sponsors is under way. It is at this last point there the most confusion seems to be arising. The original idea seemed to be that the volunteers would almost sponsor themselves. If they did not have such an amount of money, it was felt that groups of individuals could sponsor one, or a church or groups of churches could sponsor one. At this point, however, it seems sponsors are being sought where ever they might be found. Perhaps in the long run this will provide greater sponsorship.

During their recent meeting in Phoenix, Ariz., the executive sec-

retaries of the state conventions adopted a resolution establishing their willingness for the state offices to serve as channels of the sponsor income. The conventions themselves, of course, would have no budget money for such use.

During his message at the conclusion of the Executive Committee meeting, SBC President Jimmy Allen asked if God is really interested in whether Southern Baptists Grow and Go and Give. He asked if God really cares whether Southern Baptists succeed.

The presupposition, he declared, is that we have to be careful that our denomination doesn't die. "We do the things that keep certain aspects of our work growing."

"We've got to realize that if we fail, God doesn't go out of business," he said. "God is not going to get Himself into a corner about doing His business." The question, he continued, is not whether we are going to make it but whether God is going to find us useful.

Allen called for a service of instrumentality. We must have a divine obsession of what God has for us, he declared and added that it is only as we become instruments of God to share the gospel that we can count on Him to be interested in us.



## Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Ellen Williamson has written a clever book called "We Went First Class." She always has had plenty of opportunities to go first class for she is very rich. Her grandfather was one of those who started the Quaker Oats Company. Her newest book is about the fun she had going first class by ship and train in the 20's and 30's.

Since I wasn't born into the Quaker Oats family, I usually go tourist class. (Happy birthday to you on Saturday, Mama! I like Quaker Oats, but I'm glad I belonged to you instead.) But I took a trip in 1974 that I think could be filed under First Class. I was reminded of it last week when I walked across Smith Park in the sunshine (heavenly sunshine!) to hear visiting Bishop Allin bring the Wednesday noonday sermon at St. Andrews.

In an elaborate ceremony at the Washington Cathedral on June 11, 1974, the Most Reverend John Maury Allin of the Diocese of Mississippi was installed as Presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. In his inaugural sermon he referred to Mississippi as "a mysterious and lovely land." He knew, for he had served in various religious posts in Mississippi for 16 years.

A big delegation of Mississippians flew to Washington, D. C. for the occasion, including former Governor Bill Waller, and including me.

June 10 was on Monday. It's the only time I can remember sending the Record to press by noon on Monday instead of Tuesday. With the printer's good help I finished proofing the last page by 1 o'clock. My plane was to leave at 2, and I arrived at the airport at 1:45.

The preceding Friday someone had called from the governor's office saying, "The Clarion-Ledger and several other papers are sending reporters and photographers to Washington on the governor's plane. Would the Baptist Record like to send a representative?" (There would be no charge to the Record for the transportation.)

When Florence Larrimore answered the phone she said, "Dr. Odle and Mr. Abrams will be at the Southern Baptist Convention—but Mrs. McWilliams could go."

Actually the windowless, chilly National Guard plane didn't provide what you'd call first class comfort, but it felt like first class to me to be traveling

with the governor and his wife, the lieutenant-governor and his wife, a state senator, the dietitian from St. Andrews, and some topnotch reporters and public relations people.

Most of the time the men sat in the drafty front section (showing Southern courtesy like Mississippi men can) and left the insulated cabin to the women. Mrs. Winter sat quietly doing needlepoint. Occasionally one of the men came back to chat or offer somebody a Coke. We landed at Andrews Air Force Base and took a bus from there.

On Monday evening a banquet was given in the Palladian Room of the Hotel Shoreham - Americana in honor of Bishop Allin. Many prominent Mississippians were in attendance. (I got in with the prominent by my press credentials and a personal note of introduction from the governor.) Southern Baptist Jerry Clower entertained the guests with a few "remarks."

Next day was full of festivities, but I managed a brief visit to the White House and the Washington Monument and a walk down Pennsylvania Avenue. I got in the wrong line at the White House and found out that just anybody can't get in just any door.

When Tommy Titus preached one Sunday at Morrison Heights, he said that Jesus offers us freedom, forgiveness — and fortune. He provided for our adoption as joint heirs with Him, thus making us children of the King-royalty.

Titus told the story of a student who went on a voyage. A friend of the student bought him a first class ticket and bid him goodbye at the pier. The student had packed plenty of peanut butter sandwiches, for he had no money. As he ate his sandwiches, the odor of chicken, and roast beef and pork chops kept drifting from the dining room. Finally he could stand it no longer and asked the chef if he could work in the kitchen to pay for one of those meals. The man asked in surprise, "Don't you have a ticket? The price of your meals is already paid: You can eat anything on the ship you want!"

Jesus paid the price of our tickets. Why do so many eat peanut butter sandwiches when they could be eating at the table of the King?

main silent. Many say, "I don't want to become involved." It isn't a matter of becoming involved but we need to tell people about Jesus and His love for mankind. We should band together and help fight sin in every form. All Christians should take that stand.

Most of us fail to apply ourselves. We should be aware of God's desire for us to prepare ourselves to be better Christians or servants. We just pass up this opportunity to educate ourselves to the point that our reactions will be Christlike and the result is this — When we are tempted or suddenly confronted with an unfamiliar situation we act without thinking. We should discipline ourselves to think and then act.

Yes, we know we are living in the last days and this is the field day, now at the present time.

I, also, agree that the most valuable role in the world for women is the role of wife and motherhood. I am a wife, mother and have taught school for 27½ years but I tried to keep my part of our home life first and feel that I have successfully done so.

It hurts me to see so many of our young women ashamed to say, "I'm a housewife." We see this on TV many times. They have become ashamed of the most valuable role that God gave them. We need to meditate upon God's word so we may receive strength and guidance for our lives; then God will help us to be able to face the Judgment Day.

Govie Allen  
New Albany, MS

What happiness is there which is not purchased with more or less of pain? — Margaret Oliphant.

### Personally

For any who might be interested, this writer is glad to be back in warm, dry Mississippi following treks that encompassed the better part of two weeks.

First there was a trip to what is normally dry Phoenix, Ariz., for the annual Southern Baptist editors' meeting, but the arrival was hard on the heels of a record rainfall.

To get back to Mississippi, was to land in Dallas, and my flight was can-

## Follow The Snow

celled due to a eight-inch snowfall in that city. I finally managed to get aboard another flight, wondering all the way if the plane would be able to land.

Next it was to Nashville for the February meeting of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee. I got in just ahead of a six-inch snowfall, and the effects of it had just about disappeared before I left for Louisville to visit with Mississippi students at Southern Seminary. There was a great deal of

sloshing about in Nashville during the snow, however.

The Southern Seminary campus is a beautiful setting, made more beautiful by a snowfall the morning after Executive Secretary Earl Kelly, Church - Minister Relations director Cliff Perkins, and I arrived.

The visit in Louisville, however, was delightful. I had not been on that campus for several years, and I had almost forgotten its beauty.

The most delightful aspect of the

visit, however, was meeting the students from Mississippi. They are an attractive, alert, and gracious group of people. They went out of their way to make our visit a meaningful one, and they accomplished their purpose.

What a great amount of potential is gathered on that campus from this one state. What an impact these intelligent and articulate young people will have on the world as they begin to find their places in the work of the Kingdom of God.

## Letters To The Editor

### Fastest Growing

Recent articles in the Record have been printed about the fastest growing churches in our state. These have been informational and inspirational. However, after reading each article many of the pastors like myself who minister to the smaller congregation may need a word of encouragement. While this is no attempt to tarnish the halo around our top ten it may help adjust my own.

You see my church is located in a community where hardly any one moves in — just out. New faces are like church members on visitation — few and far between. There is no one single housing project and only one apartment complex. Everyone in our community has either been church or witnessed to. Now we still have outreach but most of it has to be done within our own families. In light of this there is little hope of baptizing a large number of people. Still we are growing. Only in the past few months a W.M.U. program was organized where no previous program existed. Some groups now have as high as 18 enrolled. And as low as 4 in R.A.'s. This church saw the need of community recreation and now has built tennis and basketball courts. These are lighted and have proved to be a help in providing opportunities to display Christian sportsmanship as well as open doors for a vocal witness. Our Baptist men

conduct a monthly breakfast and a quarterly supper. They have taken on the project of building a new church sign. Our Sunday School has been fighting the flu but we still have been to the mountain top of 161. The Church Training program meets with 70% of S. S. enrollment attending. We are planning and training. This church has one of the best extension programs this pastor knows about.

Our W.M.U. ladies have made lap caddies for local convalescent home. One Sunday each month we hold a brief worship service with these elderly people. Our church families have visited those who have been in the hospital and provided funds to offset some of the expenses. Last month this church exceeded their Lottie Moon goal reaching a total of \$2,500.00 for missions. They support the Cooperative Program with 13% of all gifts. They still use all convention literature and remain true to the aims of our cooperative effort. There is a lot more that could be said but we shall bring this to a close. Now they love their pastor! They bring him peanuts, potatoes, deer meat, steak and a host of other food.

They provide a modern beautiful four bedroom home and a deep freeze (which they keep full). The salary is good, the benefits excellent. Come to think of it, fellows, I feel like I pastor one of those top ten churches.

Well — if you will excuse me I have to drop by the Baptist Book Store and pick up a new halo — the one I have feels a little tight!

Jerry Mixon  
Goss Baptist Church  
Columbia, Miss.

### Note of Thanks

Dear Mr. McGregor:

I am enclosing a letter to you (in Spanish) from Rev. David Campos, the Ecuadorian pastor who was here for corrective surgery on an injured hip. Also enclosed is a translation of that letter. Bro. Campos chose to write you in Spanish, although he uses the English language, because it comes nearer to expressing his sentiments. I have attempted to capture his feelings in the translation. As I heard David say on several occasions while speaking to congregations, with me translating, "English is the language for conducting business; Spanish is the language for talking with God."

David Campos was in Mississippi for two months and during that time had corrective surgery on an injured hip

joint and subsequent therapy. He came originally for what he thought was a routine examination and prescription of corrective orthopedic shoes, but upon examination at the University Medical Center, doctors concluded his condition was more serious than originally thought. Surgery was arranged, an artificial hip joint was inserted and therapy for six weeks was prescribed. He terminated that therapy on February 17 and departed Jackson on Feb. 19.

Prior to coming to Jackson David had walked with considerable pain and a marked limp for ten years following a bicycle wreck he suffered while in high school. A few days following the surgery, David said to me, "I don't have any pain." Before the surgery one leg was several inches shorter than the other. I witnessed him on several occasions demonstrate with pride to friends, "now both knees are equal," and "before, I could not spread my legs apart, now I can; I can pedal now, but before the operation I couldn't." Another accomplishment he is particularly proud of, before surgery he could not kneel on both knees and now he can. These and many other physical maneuvers he was previously unable to do have made David a happy person.

David was impressed with the beauty of Mississippi (aside from the bone chilling cold) and the friendliness of our people. He was deeply moved with the expressions of interest and concern manifest in his behalf. The article in The Baptist Record touched him and opened many doors of friendship. Everywhere he went someone recognized him as a result of having "read it in The Baptist Record." Is it any wonder he wants to express through its pages his heartfelt gratitude?

I would like to add my own. Thanks.  
Stanley D. Stamps  
Clinton

Very Esteemed Brother:

May you and those who collaborate with The Baptist Record receive my expressions of affection and consideration.

By this means, I want to express my eternal gratitude to everyone who has made possible the reestablishment of my health. Two months ago I arrived in Jackson with much physical pain. At times I thought I would die. But Mississippi Baptists came to my help in the moment when I needed them most.

If I had to name all who have extended me their Christian love, the list

would fill several books, but I want to express my gratitude especially to some persons and along with them to all the others. The names of Dr. James Hughes, Dr. James Britton, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Gilbert, Rev. and Mrs. James P. Gilbert, Rev. and Mrs. Stanley Stamps, Rev. Gene Dobbs, Rev. Curtis Ferrell and the Spanish speaking congregation at Broadmoor Baptist Church, nurses at the University Medical Center Hospital, therapists, pastors, missionaries and brethren from all the Baptist Churches in Jackson are unforgettable to me.

Thank you for the nice article (about me) in your paper.

I return to my country, Ecuador, full of gratitude and happy, to work more, taking the Gospel to the lost, and following the example of companionship that each one of you has shown me in the difficult moments of my illness.

Thank you in the name of the Lord.  
Rev. David Campos.  
Pastor of the Urdesa Baptist Church  
Guayaquil, Ecuador  
\*Inserted by translator for clarity.

### Liquor Opposition

Dear Editor:

Greetings in Jesus dear name. The Baptist Record and my Sunday School book was the only religious writings I knew for years in my early days and I have always had high respect for the Record. The issue of January 26 where the editorials were the reprint from the Jackson Daily News sure was a terrible compromise with liquor. In that editorial where he stated "Those of us who sought legalized liquor and state control liquor sales" and the rest of the statement where people voted to legalize it and bring it from the bootlegger to the front street has never helped and he seemed to infer that legalized liquor makes liquor more decent than bootleg.

I want to go on record as a pastor of a Southern Baptist church that I take the Bible stand and oppose liquor in any form and the fifth chapter of Isaiah says that the mouth of hell is strong drink. Carey Paul Douglas  
Wesson, MS  
Pastor of East Lincoln Baptist Church

Thank you very much for your statement and your stand. And let it be noted that the Baptist Record has not compromised and will not compromise with liquor. That guest edito-

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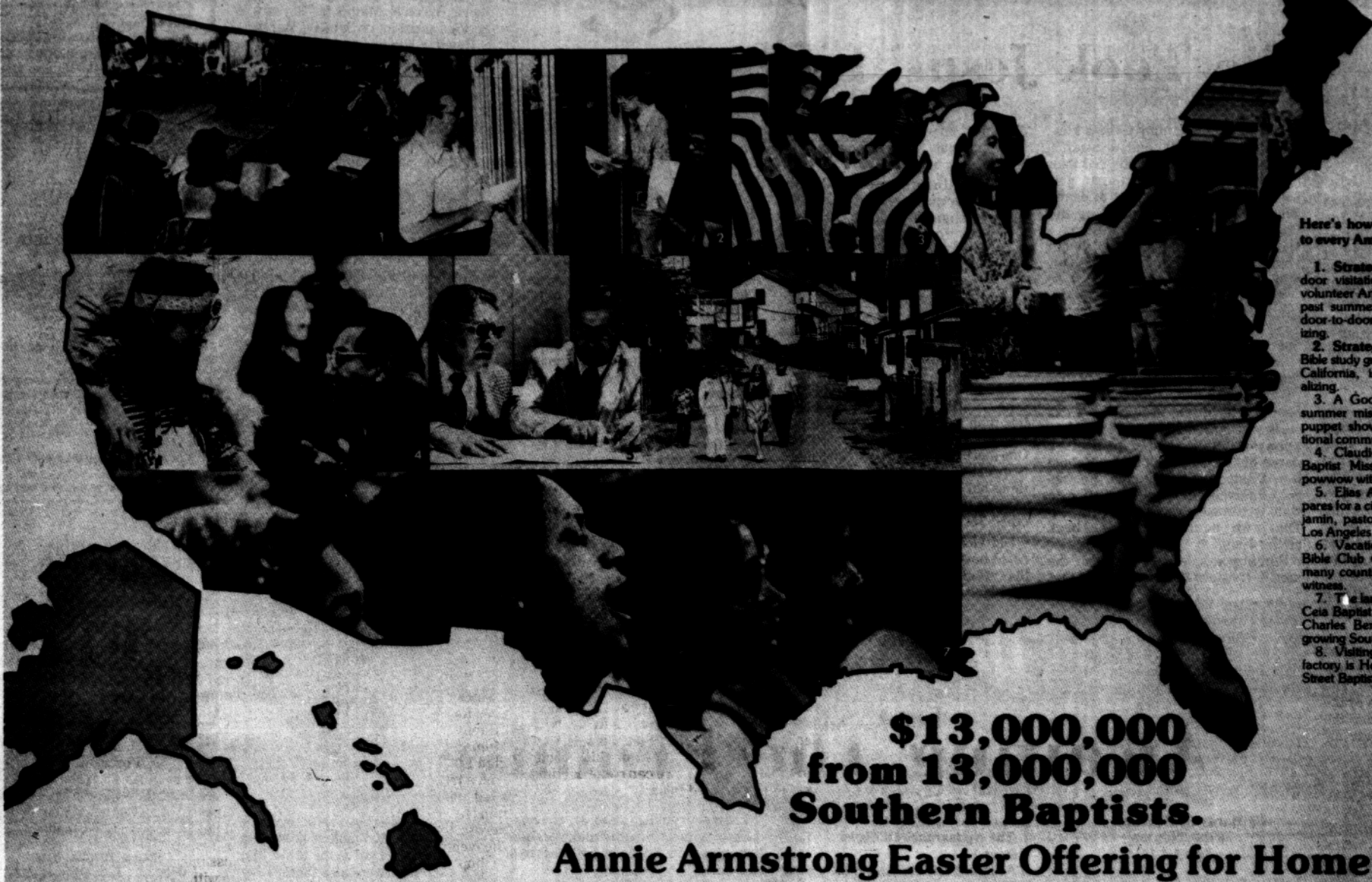
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# Bold Mission America



Here's how we can preach the gospel to every American creature.

1. Strategy 1—Evangelize: Door to door visitation by Christian Service Corps volunteer Andrew Higgins (l) who served this past summer in Great Bend, Kansas. The door-to-door survey is one means of evangelizing.
2. Strategy 2—Congregationalize: A Bible study group led by a missionary in Tahoe, California, is a first step in congregationalizing.
3. A Good Time Wagon, sponsored by summer missionaries in Baltimore, presents puppet shows for the children in a transitional community recreation program.
4. Claudio Iglesias, pastor of the Indian Baptist Mission in Albuquerque enjoys a powwow with Willis Cernio.
5. Elias Asai (r) Arabian missionary, prepares for a city survey with Rev. Lazarus Benjamin, pastor of the Bible Arabic Church in Los Angeles.
6. Vacation Bible School and Backyard Bible Club volunteers enlist children in the many counties now without any evangelical witness.
7. A largely black congregation of Palma Ceia Baptist Church in Oakland pastored by Charles Bennett, is considered the fastest growing Southern Baptist Church in California.
8. Visiting Munja Wallace in her pottery factory is Henry Mu, pastor of the Berendo Street Baptist Church, a Korean congregation.

**\$13,000,000  
from 13,000,000  
Southern Baptists.**

**Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions.**

## Missionaries Face Danger In High Crime City Areas

NEW YORK (BP) — Murders, gang fights, drug operations and human tragedy mark the lives of Southern Baptist missionaries who live and work in the high crime areas of our nation.

Richard Wilson had both eyes blackened and his nose broken while breaking up a fight; Mary Vorsten saw a gang fight erupt on a street outside her office late one night; Sam Simpson confronted a group of angry youths intent on mayhem and possibly murder near his Bronx church.

A young woman was knifed to death and her small children — ages two and four — were abducted during another gang fight near where Jim Queen and a group of volunteers were conducting a Vacation Bible School in Chicago; Bruce Schoonmaker discovered a \$30,000-a-day drug operation across the street from a vacant lot he and volunteers had cleared for a playground.

These — and other — Southern Baptist home missionaries daily brave personal danger to confront crime, despair, hopelessness and fear in the brick and steel mountains and windswept concrete canyons of the nation's large cities.

But, despite the context in which they work, many missionaries live and go about their lives in an almost normal manner.

"You cannot work here and be threatened all the time," says Ray Gilliland, director of Christian Social Ministries for the Metropolitan New York Baptist Association. "If you are going to live here, you can't live that way . . . in fear."

Schoonmaker, who directs Graffiti Center on the Lower East Side of New York City, says those to whom he ministers have "everyday lives composed of slums, poverty, unemployment and visually depressing sights," and that drugs are coupled with crime and hopelessness.

"There just aren't jobs for most of the people on the Lower East Side," he says. "Most people are poor. Unemployment is chronic. Some of the jobs are like watching a flower stand on the street to make sure they don't get ripped off. It pays \$75 a week . . . not even as much as welfare."

"Money is to be had on the streets. Many people have no ethics and so they see nothing wrong with going onto the streets, dealing in drugs, crime and human flesh. That is where the prestige and money are. They can make more money on the streets than on welfare."

The whole situation, he says, "just makes you want to cry."

### Lack of Jobs

While Schoonmaker attributes high crime to lack of jobs and general hopelessness, Gilliland says crime is high because people are frustrated. "I realize any word I use would be an oversimplification," he says. "But I think many times individuals in cities such as New York do things because of frustration."

"The tenements are what we call 'layered living.' They're constantly surrounded by people, being buffeted. The frustration builds up. If they do not have a vital contact with Jesus Christ, they don't have anyone to lean on, to love them. They want to be recognized as people."

Gilliland says he is not fearful, but cautious and insists on a strict code of conduct for visitors. "We tell women not to carry shoulder bags or any kind of handbags, but to keep their money in their pockets or shoes," he says. "We also suggest the women go in groups and never travel alone. We also tell them to wear grungy clothing . . . not their best attire."

Graffiti Center has been burglarized, as have apartments of most of the people who participate in the center's programs. "It is the kind of thing that is going to happen eventually," Schoonmaker says.

Despite the context in which they work, they continue to witness and minister. Wilson, who directs Rachel Sims Center in New Orleans, says danger has not stopped the Baptist witness even in the roughest areas.

"About four blocks from our center is a federal housing project called Irish Channel," he says. "It is very

rough; few single police cars go in there. Usually there are four or five cars at a time because of the danger. We usually go in there in the daytime. We do not go alone and most often go in triples, two to visit and one to watch the car."

### Dumping Ground

Queen works in Uptown, an area which has been called the "dumping ground of Chicago," and has established a ministry of walking the streets, visiting and talking to people in the deteriorating tenements.

Queen maintains Baptists "have to deal with cities in a different way than we have been dealing with them. We have a tendency, as a church grows, to move them out from the center city. We have forgotten that most of the people with heartaches and problems are located in the city. There is massive need in the city."

"The city is where all the poor are . . . where all of the scrambled people are. I think the church needs to come to the city. If Jesus were here today, I think He would say, 'I have to go through Uptown,' just like He went through Samaria. I think He would make special trips to places like this."



## US-2er Speaks At Colleges In State

Mary Lewis, right, US-2 missionary with the Home Mission Board in New York City, visited Mississippi last week to speak in several colleges in the state. She also spoke in chapel at the Baptist Building. (See above story for details about mission work in the inner city.)

Waudine Storey, left, consultant, state WMU, accompanied Miss Lewis on her speaking tour. The US-2er is a native of South Carolina but grew up in New York City. She plans to enter Southwestern Seminary this fall after completing her two years with the Home Mission Board.



Visually unappealing slums — with garbage piled high — great inner city dwellers. (HMB Photo by Ken Touchton)

## Mrs. Myla Guard, Ring Donor, Dies

By Judy Touchton

ATLANTA (BP) — Myla Koetter Guard, whose engagement ring may become a symbol of Southern Baptists' sacrifice for missions, died in a Macon, Ga., nursing home at the end of January.

Mrs. Guard, 91, struggling against cancer, sent her diamond ring to the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board (HMB) in Atlanta in November.

Her gift arrived, uninsured in a tattered ring box, to be used "for some young missions woman or to best advantage."

Her selfless gesture touched the hearts of many at the HMB and around the country.

A Foreign Mission Board employee wrote offering to buy the ring and leave it in keeping of the HMB.

A 66-year old woman in Houston, Tex., read about Mrs. Guard's gift and called the HMB to say she would be willing to sacrifice to buy the ring herself.

A Kentucky pastor wrote suggesting the ring be sold with the understanding that the buyer permanently entrust it

to the safekeeping of the HMB.

In response the HMB employees plan to buy the ring and give it to the board to keep the spirit of Mrs. Guard's sacrifice "in the HMB family." Staff members have indicated their gifts to purchase the ring will be "over and above" their gifts to the upcoming Annie Armstrong Offering for Home Missions.

Mrs. Guard, who was hospitalized in December for pneumonia complications to the lung cancer already taking her life, was transferred to a Macon nursing home on advice of her doctors. The pneumonia had cleared and the doctors were not sure how long she could live.

Even in death, Mrs. Guard proved her devotion to missions.

Her funeral, which she planned, was not mournful. Instead, the service, held in Fayetteville, Ark., had a theme of missions, according to her wishes.

The family asked members of the church in Watkinsville, Ga., and First Baptist Church of Fayetteville, where she had been a member, to send no flowers, but instead give to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.



A Woman's World Reaches Far  
**Beyond the  
Ironing Board**

Wilda Fendler

Won't you be glad when you can go outside without sleeves, and barefoot, if you wish, and feel the sun rays touching your skin and feel the breeze cooling the first springtime sweat on your forehead?

It's been such a long, hard, cold winter for many people I know well and love dearly, for many that I know only casually, and for a quite a number I've never met but have written me because they feel we know one another through our being brothers and sisters in Christ. It isn't that the events or problems or feelings have been any different this winter. It just seems that the dreary, cold weather has made everything worse. It seems, too, that many feel a dreariness and coldness in the spiritual atmosphere in which they move.

So, springtime will be so welcome this year, don't you agree?

But you know, too, don't you, that life really is full of springtimes? The springtime of forgiveness — what is more delicious and refreshing than to know that no matter what your behavior or failing, that you are not only forgiven, but still loved. And the springtime of new beginnings — when you messed up gloriously, but now you have another chance. And the springtime of new credibility — when you weren't quite honest enough with people for them to be able to believe you when you are being honest, yet a time of proving your honesty makes you believable again to them. And the springtime of restored faith — when the wintertime of surely this is not happening - to me - because I really don't - deserve - it had been replaced with a head-on-in-the-right-direction faith in God instead of self and others. And the springtime of getting well after an illness. And the springtime of death, even, after release from the tortures of pain and hopeless agony into the peace of God's place He had prepared. Everybody has a special springtime he can think about at this point, I would think. I hope so, anyway.

And should the coming summer be very long and hot, I pray that I will have the grace to keep a folding fan within arm's length, use it heartily, and be glad for warmth.

## Off The Record

Heard about a minister who told a current trumpet player he was the second best trumpet player of all time. "Who is the first?" asked the trumpet player.

"Gabriel," answered the minister. "Haven't heard him," answered the trumpet player.

The minister responded, "You will, brother, you will. . . ." — (Smiley the Baptist) Tylertown Church News



Crime — and arrest — are facts of life to the nation's inner city dwellers. (HMB photo by Ken Touchton)



# Life and Work Lesson

## Who Took Jesus' Life?

By Bill Duncan, Long Beach, First  
(John 18:33-38; 19:12-16)

It has been reported that President Carter has received criticism for teaching in a Sunday School class that the Jews killed Jesus Christ. Of course, he has to be careful that he does not offend the American public which includes a large Jewish population. If the Jews do not think they killed Jesus, who did? Did the Romans? I have heard preachers say that we killed Jesus. Who do you think took the life of Jesus?

In the time of Jesus the Jews were subject to the Romans. The Romans allowed a good deal of self-government, but the Jews had not the right to carry out the death penalty. The purpose of having a Roman governor in Palestine was that of "having the power of life and death put into his hands by Caesar." It is reported that at times the Jews would take the law into their own hands, such as at the death of Stephen. But legally and officially they had no right to inflict the death penalty on anyone.

The trial before Annas and Caiaphas was like our present grand jury system. They only determined guilt. The actual trial had to be carried out by the Roman governor. The Jews from the start were seeking to use Pilate for their purposes.

The hatred of the Jews toward Jesus caused them to forget all justice, principles, and even God. In the end the Jews reached such an insanity of hatred that they had no reason, mercy or common traits of humanity. The Jews would not enter Pilate's judgment hall for fear of becoming ceremonially unclean, but they were doing everything possible to crucify the Son of God. Remember the trial of Jesus took place the week of the Passover. If a Jew would even go where leaven might be found, he would become unclean to eat the Passover meal. Ceremonies were more important than people.

The Jews even twisted their charge against Jesus. In their private examination the charge was blasphemy. They knew Pilate would not proceed with a charge like that. So they ac-

cused Jesus of claiming to be a king, and they knew that their accusation was a lie. The Jews even denied their basic stand against the Roman government to have Jesus put to death. They said, "We have no king but Caesar." The statement must have shocked Pilate for they had fought wars to keep from saying, "Caesar is king."

Remember it was the Jews who yelled, "Crucify Him, Crucify Him!" like howling wolves. If they were guilty of anything it was the sin of hate.

When the Jews brought Jesus to Pilate they were asked point blank, "What do you have against this prisoner you have sent in to me?" Their reply was evasive but their reason was apparent; they wanted to destroy Jesus but were forbidden by Roman law. Pilate was a politician. He was only interested in public reaction to what decision he would have to make. That is why he tried to put Jesus back on the Jews.

Pilate asked Jesus, "Art thou the king of the Jews?" Jesus replied that

His kingdom was not of this world. His was spiritual. His mission was to tell men how to be saved.

Pilate had a serious responsibility in the trial. He did not want to be involved in any religious argument. He only wanted to protect his own interest. But he found it impossible to ignore Jesus Christ. He found nothing wrong with Jesus. Pilate tried to have Jesus released but the aroused crowd demanded that Jesus be condemned. There was no way of getting out of the load of responsibility. The decision was made to content the people.

The Jews blackmailed Pilate into crucifying Jesus. They said, "If you let this man go free you are not Caesar's friend." Pilate's record was not good. One more disturbance and he would be dethroned. He wanted to do the right thing but did not have the courage to defy the Jews and do it. Pilate crucified Jesus to keep his job.

Did God put Jesus to death? God could have stopped it. John 3:16 says that "God gave his only begotten Son."

God did furnish the sacrifice for our sins. In a beautiful way, God can be thought of as responsible for the death of Jesus.

What about the thought that we put Jesus to death? We did because Jesus died for our iniquities and our sins. Sin drove the nails into his hands and feet.

It seems that the Jews, the Romans and the Christians all share in the responsibility. There is a sense in which all of us were involved in the crucifixion. Who took Jesus' life? There is no simple answer. Jesus was and is today rejected because people choose to put self-interest above the truth to which he bears witness.

As Pilate faced Jesus that morning it looked as if he were deciding what was to be done with the Lord. What he did not recognize was that he was actually condemning himself. This is a word of warning to all. Each person needs to face the issue about Jesus Christ honestly and squarely. What one does with Jesus Christ and His invitation will indicate exactly what God Almighty will do with him.



## Church To Honor Mathis On 20th Year As Pastor

Pascagoula's Calvary Church will honor Byron E. Mathis for 20 years of service as pastor on Sunday, March 5. Regular Sunday morning activities will be followed by dinner on the grounds and a special service of recognition at 2:30 p.m.

The Mathis family came to Pascagoula in March of 1958. The church plant then consisted of a small brick sanctuary, one educational unit, and a frame-structured parsonage.

During the Mathis ministry, the outstanding debt was paid on the original educational unit; a new educational unit and new parsonage has been erected; an additional staff residence has been purchased; and a new sanctuary built.

Mrs. Mathis has been active in the church's music ministry. In 1958 the church had only one choir. Today a fully graded choir program includes five choirs and three ensembles. Mrs. Mathis directs the Sanctuary Choir and the Ladies Ensemble. Under her direction the Sanctuary Choir developed and produced the popular musical, "The King Is Coming." (Mrs. Mathis is the granddaughter of the late Dan Moulder, pioneer pastor of Mississippi. Her father, the late Chester Moulder, was also an active Baptist pastor.)

Mathis's son, Buddy, popular young

(Continued on page 7)



## Uniform Lesson

## Awaiting The Promise

By Hardy R. Denham, Jr.  
First, Newton  
Acts 1:1-14

The lessons for March through August in this series will constitute a journey through the book of The Acts. The opening verses of The Acts make it clear that this book is a continuation of Luke's gospel record. A study of The Acts reveals that Luke wrote to show how the gospel overcame barriers and that it could not be hindered.

The empowering presence of the Holy Spirit was and is a vital factor in the spread of the gospel. The Lord Jesus promised His Spirit to His disciples (John 14:16-18, 26; 15:26; 16:13-15). The first lesson from The Acts focuses on the restatement of that prom-

ise and the awaiting of its fulfillment. I. The Appearance Of Christ Verses 1-3

As indicated, The Acts is the second half of a two-part work. The Gospel of Luke presents truths concerning the Lord's Advent, ministry, and death. The gospel record climaxes with the report of Christ's resurrection. The Acts takes up the historical narrative after the resurrection and the opening words of the book were designed to link it with "the first book" (verses 1-2).

The emphasis in the first words of The Acts is upon the proof of the resurrection (verse 3). The Lord Jesus was seen on different occasions by His followers during the 40-day interim between His resurrection and ascension. The primary purposes of this post-resurrection ministry was to confirm the fact of His resurrection. The gospel is not good news if it ends with the death of Christ. It is the fact that He lives forever (Revelation 1:18) and offers life to dead men that makes the gospel good news for a bad world. The confirmation, or proof, of the Lord's victory over death and the grave was in the form of repeated appearances.

II. The Assignment For The Church Verses 4-8

The Lord again promised the Holy Spirit (verses 4-5). Two observations are most important at this point. First, the baptism of the Holy Spirit (verse 5) refers to the entrance of the Spirit into a believer's life. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and for Christians takes place at the moment of conversion. Second, the Lord commanded the disciples to wait until the Spirit was given before beginning their work (verse 4). The Lord made them wait for ten days before giving the Holy Spirit to emphasize that without His empowering presence they were impotent to do the work of witnessing.

The disciples were puzzled about the kingdom (verses 6-7). The apostles were still thinking of the establishment of a Jewish nation. The Lord answered that it was not their business

to know everything (verse 8). The business of witness is not to make predictions about the future, but witness to a lost world.

Then the Lord assigned the work of witnessing (verse 8). The scope of this work includes the whole world, meaning all people everywhere. The strength for this titanic task would be provided by God in the Holy Spirit. Notice that the power of the Spirit is given for witnessing.

III. The Announcement Of The Coming Verses 9-11

Having assigned the ministry of witnessing, the Lord Christ returned to the Father. There is an indirect reference to the ascension in Luke 24:51. Two aspects of this event worthy of notice are that the Lord's ascent was both bodily and visible (verse 9).

When Christ had disappeared from sight, the disciples became aware of the presence of "two men . . . in white robes" (verse 10). These messengers from God announced that the Lord Jesus would return (verse 11). They declared that just as the Lord's departure into heaven had been bodily and visible, so would be His coming again.

The very first word to come from God after the Lord Jesus left this earth was that He would come back again. Nothing was said about when the return would be. Those first witnesses went to work in a spirit of expectancy, believing the return would be soon.

IV. The Agreement Of The Company Verses 12-14

Following the ascent of Christ the apostles returned to Jerusalem to await the promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit (verse 12). They were there for ten days, until Pentecost (Acts 2:1).

Luke reported who was present in the upper room, and even the number present (verse 15). The remaining eleven of the original twelve disciples were there (verse 13). This is the last listing of these men in the Bible.

Women were present (verse 14). The reference to Jesus' mother is the last direct mention of her in the Bible. The Lord's brothers were also there. They did not believe on Jesus before crucifixion (John 7:5), but apparently did so after the resurrection.

There was spiritual agreement among the company as they awaited the promised Holy Spirit. The phrase, "one accord," described people periodically in the Acts (see 2:1; 8:6). The period between the ascent and Pentecost was devoted to prayer (verse 14). Such agreement among saints is not only vitally essential for the church experiencing the power of God's Spirit, but also for the world being receptive to the witness the saints give.

## Needlework Celebrates WMU Birthday

Two special presentations have been made at First Church, Crystal Springs, in observance of the Centennial of Mississippi WMU.

Mrs. Cecil Pritchard, Centennial Chairman, directed the making of a Centennial Quilt which was presented for use in the Prophet's Room of the parsonage. The quilt has embroidered on it a magnolia, symbol of the state of Mississippi, the Centennial dates 1878-1978, and the names of all the women who have directed the work of Woman's Missionary Union at First Baptist Church.

Mrs. E. E. Clower had the quilt set up in her home for quilting. Another presentation was that of the Centennial emblem done in needlepoint by Mrs. Jim Barron. The emblem gives the Centennial theme "Our Best For God" and the dates 1878-1978 encircling the magnolia.

Pastor Estus Mason was presented a bronze key ring made from a medallion of the Centennial emblem.

## At This Hospital, Children Find Valentine's Day Is Every Day

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (RNS) — Valentine's Day has special meaning here in the Children's Pavilion at Methodist Hospital.

The hospital and chaplaincy staffs each year busily prepare a program that links what is known as the "love rose" into the motif for Valentine's Day.

The children patients write poems about what love means to them, and often they touch on the symbolism of the "love rose" that each day is placed in a vase in the chapel.

And, each day, since 1968 some young patient has received the still-fresh rose in its vase from the day before.

The idea was that of the Edgar Filbey, a United Methodist minister. He thought of the rose as being like the Gospel, simple but profound, and beautiful as are the children.

The rose from the day before usually goes to a child with a special need frequently pointed out to the chaplains by the Pavilion nurses.

Perhaps, the child is feeling especially sad that day, or thought he or she was going to get to go home and was disappointed, or is terminally ill. Or perhaps, it is given just for a "happy, nothing special" day.

Mrs. Shirley Franz, owner of Shirley's Flowers, learned about the

"love rose." She had lost four children; one with leukemia, another with a congenital heart problem and two at birth. She insisted on a supplying the daily rose free of charge.

"How can you charge for a rose for God?" she asked.

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To Sing At Goodman

The imperials, a Gospel singing group, will be in concert March 14 at 7 p.m. in the Frank B. Branch Coliseum, Holmes Junior College. Members of the group include: Armond Moreale, Dave Will, Jim Murray, Russell Taft, John Tutz, Mike Kinard, James Hollihan and Bill George. The imperials have performed road tours with Elvis Presley, Jimmy Dean, Pat Boone, and Carol Channing. Admission is \$1.50 advance and \$2.00 at the door. For more information call 472-2312 ext. 59 or write Ray Bridges, Holmes Jr. College, Goodman, MS 39079. The concert is being sponsored by the Baptist Student Union at HJC.

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## Just For The Record



HEBRON CHURCH, LAUDERDALE ASSOCIATION recently dedicated a new pastor's home. The three bedroom, two bath, all electric brick home is located on the Causeville Road next to the church. Members of the building committee were, left to right: Harold Carlisle, Lynda Barkley, Janie Camp, Leo McDonald, Russell Camp, George Gordon, and (not pictured) Ray Stodard. The pastor is Larry Moore.



FIRST CHURCH, NEW ALBANY, observed Boy Scout Sunday during their worship services Feb. 19. Receiving the God and Church Awards were: (bottom row, left to right) Brian Meador, Stuart Cocanougher, Mark Edwards, David Dillard, Walter Morris. Receiving the Eagle Awards were: (Top row, left to right) Jeff Parnell, Ed Coltharp, Danny Kelly, Bill Rosenthal, and Tom Wiseman. W. F. Evans is pastor.

### Arlington Begins Family Night

Arlington Church, Lincoln County had the first "Family Night" on Feb. 1 with Mission Friends, Girls in Action, Acteens, R. A.'s, Brotherhood, and Women's Missionary Society meeting. A short prayer service was held afterward.

It was an organizational meeting for the Brotherhood and R.A.'s. Ray Leveire is the Brotherhood leader and Charles Smith the R. A. leader.

A Bake Sale was held Jan. 27 and 28 to provide funds for the choir robes. At this sale and with donations, enough money was raised to buy the robes. Terry Walker is the choir director. There are 26 choir members.

The church is experiencing growth in number of members, by baptism and by letter. The pastor is Bob Ammons.

### Strong Hope Gave \$196.00

In the list of state missions gifts printed in the Baptist Record, a \$196 gift from Strong Hope Church, Copiah County, was omitted.



### Sweethearts

Pope Church, Jimmy Furr, pastor, had an adult sweetheart banquet on Feb. 11, with 50 present. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pratt, married 55 years, were the oldest sweethearts present. They received a corsage and boutonniere.



KATHY RICHARDSON AND JIM GARDNER were crowned queen and king of the Sweetheart Banquet sponsored by County Line (Neshoba) Acteens. The banquet was held at the Union Community Center on Feb. 11. Linda Hamil, right, speech and drama instructor at Judson College, Marion, Ala., was speaker. With the speaker and royalty are Bobby Barfoot, pastor, and his wife, the Acteen leader. The new king and queen were crowned by last year's winners, Dale Gardner and Joey Sharp. (Photo by Jane Tannehill)

All the dope this country swallows is not narcotic.

Don't resent growing old — many are denied the privilege.

### Harmontown Members Visit Holy Land

Pastor Don Stanfill and his son Donnie, Robbie Cook, Joyce Lammey, and Jim Westerman of the Harmontown Church, Lafayette County, have returned from a tour of the Holy Land.

The tour included stops in New York, Greece, Rome, and Jerusalem. The group waded in the Jordan River, drank water from Jacob's Well, prayed where Jesus prayed, visited the Mount of Olives, walked the way Jesus walked when He carried his cross.

They all agreed that "to kneel and pray where Jesus prayed is a feeling that is indescribable and to walk the sacred grounds where He walked is an experience never to be forgotten."

Stanfill took slides to share with the church, and gave every member of the congregation a replica of the Widow's Mite.

Harmontown WMU reports that the \$1,000 Lottie Moon goal has been exceeded. Gifts totaled \$1,586.81.

### Agricola Church Presents Love Gift To Pastor

Agricola Church presented a love gift of \$1,000 to W. Bryce Evans on his tenth anniversary as pastor there. Charles Walter Brown, deacon chairman, made the presentation. The deacons, their wives, and church members also prepared a noon meal and a love pounding.

Some of the accomplishments of the church since Evans has served as pastor were published in the church bulletin on the special day.

In 1968 an educational building was



Charles Walter Brown presents check to Pastor Bryce Evans, right.

completed and dedicated which had begun under the leadership of former pastor, Woodrow Hudson. Three acres of land were purchased and a new pastory was built and paid for. The church purchased a bus and began a bus ministry.

The church has gone into a complete record system and hired a church secretary. A church library was organized. The church now has custodian services. The church softball league has been organized.

The church has now adopted a constitution. In Church Training, the church has won many banners. The average attendance in Sunday School has increased from 90 in 1964 to an average of 186 in 1976.

The church has purchased 10 acres of land and plans are being formulated for another church building.

Evans has served as moderator of the George County Association and was instrumental in the development and building of the Cedar Creek Baptist Retreat.

Under his leadership, approximately 259 new members have been added, either by baptism or by letter.

A graded choir program has been established. The church budget has increased significantly. The 1976-77 increase was the largest percentage increase in a two-county area. A deacon rotation system has been established. And the mission and Cooperative Program offerings have increased substantially.

Evans has been ably assisted in his ministry by his wife, Joan. They have three children. Dinah, married to Tim Byrd of Mobile, is a recent Master's graduate from the University of South Alabama. Donnie is a junior at Mobile College, and Dana is a seventh grade student.

## Revival Dates

West Marks Church, Marks: Mar. 12-17; W. G. Robertson, pastor of Southside Church, Monroeville, Alabama, evangelist; services daily at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Olyn Roberts, pastor.

Sandersville Church (Jones): March 5-10; Roy Myers, pastor of Mt. Zion Church, Independence, evangelist; Ken Culpepper of Laurel, singer; Sunday services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weeknight services at 7:30; Bruce Jolly, pastor.

Blue Lake Church, Lambert: March 5-10; Wesley Nicholass, Pastor of First Faith Church, Sardis Lake, evangelist; Bobby Shurden, minister of music and youth at Oakhaven Church, Memphis, musician; services at 7:30 p.m. Paul Blanchard, pastor.

A tool is but the extension of a man's hand, and a machine is but a complex tool. He that invents a machine augments the power of a man and the well being of mankind. — Henry Ward Beecher.

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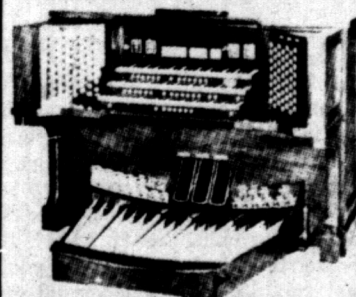
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## Staff Changes

Larry Moore recently accepted the pastorate of Hebron Church in Lauderdale Association. Moore, a native of Lauderdale County, is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. He has served as pastor of Derby Church (Pearl River) and as minister of education and youth at Southside Church (Lauderdale). He is married to the former Beth Nicholson and they have a daughter, Kelly.

Blue Lake Church, Lambert, has called Larry Warner as minister of music and youth. He assumed his duties in February. Paul Blanchard is pastor.

### Church To Honor...

(Continued from page 6) evangelist, is now a graduate student at the University of Southern Mississippi. He is a graduate of Mississippi College.

The Calvary Church has experienced growth in every area of the church during the years of Mathis' ministry. The church has been active in the establishment of missions, both locally and in pioneer areas. Specialized ministries in the community include youth work, senior citizens fellowship, kindergarten, and day care programs.

James V. Miller, associate pastor, states that a book of letters compiled by the staff will be presented to Mathis on March 5. Also a special gift of recognition will be presented.

Al Homer has accepted the call to become pastor of Center Ridge Church, Yazoo County. Now pastor of Gillsburg Church in Pike County, he will begin his service at Center Ridge on Wed., March 8. Cornell Daughtry of Moorhead has been interim pastor at Center Ridge for several months.

As the purse is emptied the heart is filled. — Victor Hugo.



### "Miss Bonnie" Is Music

By Laura Evans

Sunday, January 22, was a cold day at Caesar, in Pearl River County. Inside Union Church, however, a special kind of warmth prevailed, the kind generated by love and affection — love and affection this day for a very special lady known as "Miss Bonnie."

For the past 37 years Mrs. Bonnie Lee, now 77, has been playing the piano at Union; and Union, endeavoring to express love and appreciation to her for what she has given them in her service to God, dedicated a newly purchased, paid-for baby grand piano "... to our Lord Jesus Christ and Mrs. Bonnie Lee with appreciation and love..."

For Union's members "Miss Bonnie" and music are not just synonymous: "Miss Bonnie" is music. There is music in the gentle, serene smile so ever-present that it seems a part of her physical makeup; there is music in the twinkle of her eyes that finds its way out in her happy laughter; and there is music in

the generous giving of herself through her talents.

And when "Miss Bonnie" takes her place at the piano at Union, letting her fingers find their own way across the keyboard as she smiles out over the congregation, no matter what the weather outside, inside there is sunshine.



Jimmy Walley, minister of music and youth, presents plaque to Bonnie Lee, pianist.

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## NAMES IN THE NEWS



Pastor Harold Lollar, center, and his wife Judy, right, were presented a plaque of appreciation for seven years dedicated service and a cash gift on Pastor Appreciation Day at Pine Forest Church, Collinsville. Freeman Moffett, left, deacon, made the presentation. Under Lollar's leadership the church has added an education building and a fellowship building and has enlarged and remodeled the sanctuary. The church fully met the 1977 goal of \$1,000 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

The Mississippi College Department of Music will present James Glass, tenor, in faculty recital on Thursday, March 2, at 8:15 p.m. in Aven auditorium on the college campus. Glass, accompanied by Lucy Cahn, will present a program including operatic arias by Handel, Donizetti and Puccini; Beethoven's song cycle *An die ferne Geliebte* and *Cycle of Holy Songs* by Ned Rorem. Glass, in his second year as coordinator of the church music program at Mississippi College, has sung in several recent Mississippi Opera Association productions and has appeared in recital before many civic and church organizations in the area.

Jay McKinney, one of the New Spirit Singers at Riverport Church, Greenville, flew to Chattanooga, TN recently to cut his first record.

Paul and Brenda Lee, missionaries to Spain, may be addressed at Santa Lucia, Buzon, Denia (Alicante) Spain. They are natives of Mississippi.



From the left are Deacon Jessie Ponds, Pine Forest Church, Collinsville, retiring Sunday School director of four years; Bill Pace, who has received a pin for seven years perfect attendance in Sunday School; Kelly Swearingen, with six years perfect attendance; Pastor Harold Lollar; and Bobby Beddingfield, Sunday School director and deacon.

Sunday School perfect attendance pins for more than five years have been presented to the following at Van Winkle Church, Jackson: Jonita Lee and Becky Ferns, five years; D. L. Riley, nine years; Luci Riley, ten years; Mrs. Myrtle Robinson, 14 years; Donna Brown and Mary E. Chancellor, 16 years; Mrs. D. L. Riley, 17 years; J. E. Farmer and Mrs. Yvonne Bailey, 18 years; and Mrs. Katie V. Wilson, 20 years.

Mrs. S. L. Beasley died in Lufkin, Tex., on Feb. 20, at the age of 92. She was the grandmother of Jerry Merriman, associate in the Department of Student Work, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. The funeral was Feb. 21 in Lufkin.

Robert G. Ethridge has been named public relations specialist in the office of communications of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, TN.

## World Men's Conference Expects 4,000 From 60 Countries; Speakers Announced

INDIANAPOLIS — Hong Kong Baptists, who entertained the first World Conference of Baptist Men in 1974, are sending 30 delegates to the second such conference — at Indianapolis, USA, April 5-9.

Stephen Steeves, chairman of the Baptist World Alliance Men's Department, the conference sponsor, announced however that the Hong Kong group will be only the second largest

"foreign delegation." The largest group from outside the United States, will be from Steeves' own country, Canada. Steeves is an automobile dealer at Moncton, New Brunswick.

Steeves said that advance registrations indicate an attendance of 4000 at the second World Conference of Baptist Men, and that every continent will be represented. Laymen, pastors, and wives are invited.

The theme of the conference is "God Working Through You."

In addition to the Canadian and Hong Kong delegations, Steeves announced that 20 are expected from Brazil, 12 to 15 from Caribbean islands (including Cuba), and eight from India. An estimated 60 other countries will be represented by one or two persons.

The largest attendance is coming, as expected, from the United States, the host country and also the home of 28 million of the world's 33 million Baptists. Several state Brotherhood departments are planning chartered buses of automobile caravans.

Owen Cooper, program chairman for the conference, said that 150 men have accepted program responsibilities, most of them as leaders and convenors in workshops and discussion groups.

Among the chief speakers will be David Y. K. Wong of Hong Kong, president of the BWA; Ambassador Francis Dennis of Liberia; Erling Oddestad of Sweden; Roberto Laredo of Chile,

Samuel Prato of Venezuela, Isaac Malafa of Cameroon, and these Baptist leaders from the United States: Gardner Taylor, New York; Manuel Scott, Los Angeles; John W. Williams, Kansas City; Jerry Clower, Grand Ole Opry; Jimmy Allen, president of Southern Baptist Convention; and Mrs. Marie Mathis, president of the BWA Women's Department.

Special Music will be provided by a choir from India, the Kentucky Baptist chorale, and the combined choirs of National Baptist churches in Indianapolis. Eugene Sutherland of Louisville will be general music director.

Advance registration through the office of the BWA Conference Coordinator in Washington is necessary in order to assure adequate housing for delegates in hotels near the conference center. A registration fee of \$25 is charged for each man attending from the United States and Canada. The mailing address is Baptist World Alliance, 1628 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington DC 20009.

## Preacher's Day Often Begins In Local Bar

CHATHAM, Ill. (BP) — Early rising citizens of Chatham may think they are still dreaming if they happen to see the pastor of the First Baptist Church walk into Lloyd's Lounge some morning about 6 a.m.

But he's not there to get a head start on his day's drinking.

"In all my ministry, I've stopped in

local taverns to meet people, to drink coffee, to make myself visible in the community," D. L. Scott says. "And when I go in a tavern, I don't take a big Bible and lay it out on the bar and preach a sermon to everyone. At Lloyd's Lounge, for example, I drink coffee, or eat breakfast, maybe twice a week. I go early, for then I meet a lot of working men who drop in before work. I quietly jot down names and addresses, and often follow up on my contacts."

Scott's church is one of four Illinois churches listed by the Southern Baptist Convention's (SBC) Home Mission Board as one of the 425 fastest growing SBC congregations in the nation. He says his members don't criticize his visiting in taverns.

"I've done this in all my churches, and frankly, got some criticism, but not here in Chatham. I told the folks what I was going to do, and they understand it," he says.

"And when I visit anyone, whether in a public place or in homes, I don't argue, or try to have the last word; nor pressure or embarrass folks. I'm not afraid to admit I don't have all the answers. I like a low-key approach. That kind of attitude says I'm available and open."

Scott, who describes himself as a 9th-grade drop-out, became a Christian as an adult. He then enrolled in Southwest Baptist College in Missouri, where he took GED tests to qualify for his high school diploma. He went on to graduate from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City in 1967.

"I'm not a great preacher," Scott says, "nor a profound Bible scholar. But preaching isn't what wins converts — it's the personal witnessing. Preaching builds up the believers, and then the believers do the winning."

## Annuitants Conference Is May 1-5

DALLAS, Texas — Christian growth experiences, special interest conferences, creative activities, a talent show, a concert and a banquet characterize the Southern Baptist Annuitants Board's 1978 Annuitants' Conference May 1-5 in Ridgcrest, N. C.

To be held in the Ridgcrest Baptist Conference Center, the five-day event will focus on the theme, "As I Go."

Frank G. Schwall, Jr., conference director and assistant to the Annuitants Board president, says the conference will give special attention to the subject of active service for Christ during retirement years.

Donald F. Ackland, widely-known Southern Baptist writer and teacher, will serve as conference Bible leader. Speakers include Perry Crouch, former executive secretary of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and Clovis Brantley, a Home Mission Board retiree from Atlanta.

More conference information may be obtained from Schwall by writing the Annuitants Board, 511 North Akard Building, Dallas, Texas 75201.

## Devotional

### "I — WHY?"

By John R. Claypool, Pastor, Northminster, Jackson

I once heard a speaker claim that these two little words comprise the shortest poem in the English language and also life's most searching question. Has anyone made it through all of his or her days without wondering sometimes: "I — why?"



Claypool

The Bible supplies an answer to this question. It points to a God Who found the fact of His own aliveness so overwhelmingly joyful that He said one day: "This is too good to keep to Myself. I know what I want to do. I shall create beings in My own image who will be capable of participating in My kind of Joy." According to the Bible, this is how the adventure of creation was begun. It was not at bottom a selfish enterprise, but a generous one. God did not create in order to acquire something for Himself, but rather to give something of Himself.

He wanted human beings to taste some of the Joy that inhered in His kind of aliveness, so He began to say: "Let there be . . . Let us make . . ."

But exactly what is involved in God's kind of aliveness? Genesis 1 depicts a process characterized by freedom, competence, and the ability to celebrate. There was nothing forced or driven about the original decision. Out of all the options before Him, God freely chose to create out of His own intentionality. And this was obviously consistent with His powers, but He was able to carry through on what He resolved. And best of all, when He came to the end of that first phase of activity, He was pleased with what He had done. He clapped His hands with delight and exclaimed: "It is good, good, very, very good!"

And you and I will begin to enter the Joy of our Lord and fulfill our reason for being when we begin to do life in this same pattern of freedom, competence, and celebration. We have it in us to choose wisely, to act effectively, and to feel delight for what we have done. This is the image of God within us. Therefore, "let there be . . . let us make . . ."

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